## Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraphs [25] and [26] with the following amended paragraph:

[25] On the other hand, the task testing unit 40, if the task is being currently performed, can preferably check whether the subject task is being performed in a designated or prescribed region or not. That is to say, the task testing unit 40 checks or tests the operation region for the task that is currently being performed, and according to the checking result, the task testing unit 40 generates an address signal. If the task is being performed in the designated region, the task testing unit 40 preferably does not generate the address signal. In contrast, if the task is not being performed in the designated region, the task testing unit 40 preferably generates the address signal, which is later inputted in the corresponding task comparing unit 48a-48e, such as 48c, as described above. Besides the task testing unit 40, an additional separate unit (not shown) can also be provided to judge whether the task is being performed in the designated region or not in another preferred embodiment.

[26] As shown in Fig. 3, the task signal can be inputted into one of the task comparing units (e.g., 48c), and that task comparing unit can output a grant signal according to the address signal inputted based on the task signal. As shown in Fig. 3, instead of the grant signal Here, a write signal (WR) that is generated from the central

processing unit 10 can <u>also</u> be used <u>instead</u>. If the write signal (WR) is a prescribed value such as '1', the write signal (WR) is a read signal (e.g., read only), and if the write signal (WR) is set to '0', the write signal (WR) is a write signal. However, it should be noted that the grant signal output is dependent or preferably totally dependent on the address signal. The address signal is preferably a signal for indicating whether a task is performed in the designated area or not.